



DeKalb County Seminole Road MSWL November 1, 1999

Introduction

The Georgia Division of Public Health (GDPH) was requested to investigate community complaints regarding odors and inquiries about health impacts from the Seminole Road Landfill in DeKalb County, Georgia.

Site Description and History

The Seminole Road municipal landfill is a county-managed, operating landfill in Ellenwood, DeKalb County, Georgia.

The landfill is an 800-acre that includes a transfer station and a composting operation. The portion of the site that is occupied by active and closed waste disposal areas is bound to the north by site property maintained for future expansion, to the east by Clevefont Road, to the south by Linecrest Road, and to the west and southwest by Ward Lake Road. Linecrest Road is the county line between DeKalb and Henry Counties.

Access to the landfill is controlled by the scale house attendant during working hours and by a security fence surrounding the landfill property. The site is patrolled by a security guard and the entrance gate is locked during non-operating hours.

Environmental Sampling/Results

DeKalb County has conducted air and groundwater monitoring and five organic constituents have been detected in on-site groundwater monitoring wells and temporary off-site wells equal to or exceeding regulatory levels.

Groundwater analyses indicated that contamination has migrated to the south of the landfill. Groundwater flow and chemical transport analyses indicate that the contaminant plume is receding and that for every constituent detected, the levels are decreasing or are no longer found in the groundwater. Contamination is

thought to be decreasing as a result of natural attenuation and reduced infiltration since the unlined disposal area was capped. All residents living in the vicinity of the landfill are offered municipal water, and there is no evidence that exposure to contaminated groundwater has occurred, is occurring, or will occur in the future. Air, soil, and surface water bodies in the vicinity of the landfill are not expected to be affected by contaminants because of the low levels of contaminants detected.

Conclusions

GDPH has categorized this site as **no public health hazard** because: there is no evidence of current or past human exposure to contaminated media; future exposure to contaminated media are not likely to occur; and there is no community specific health outcome data to indicate that the site has had an adverse impact on human health.

Recommendations

GDPH recommends the following:

- Public health information should be made available at the DeKalb County Public Library for residents to review public health reports pertaining to the site.
- To ensure that residents are not exposed to contaminants present in groundwater, this water source should not be used for consumption or any other use where humans may come into contact with it.
- Groundwater monitoring should be continued to provide additional assurance that there will be no apparent risk of exposure to contaminated groundwater in the future.
- GEPD and DeKalb County should continue pursuing remediation efforts.